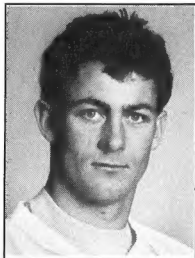




*Photo by Gregory Drezdson*

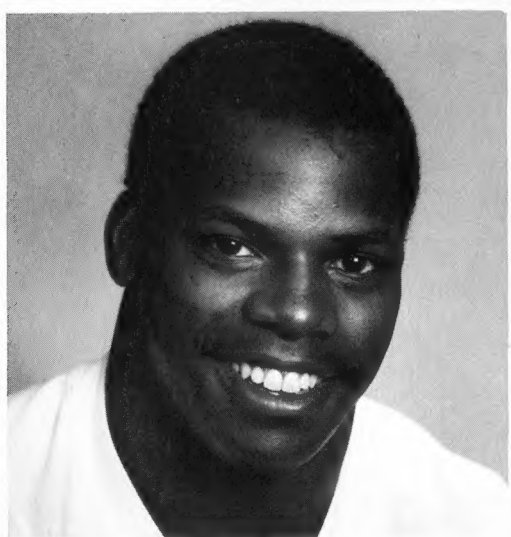
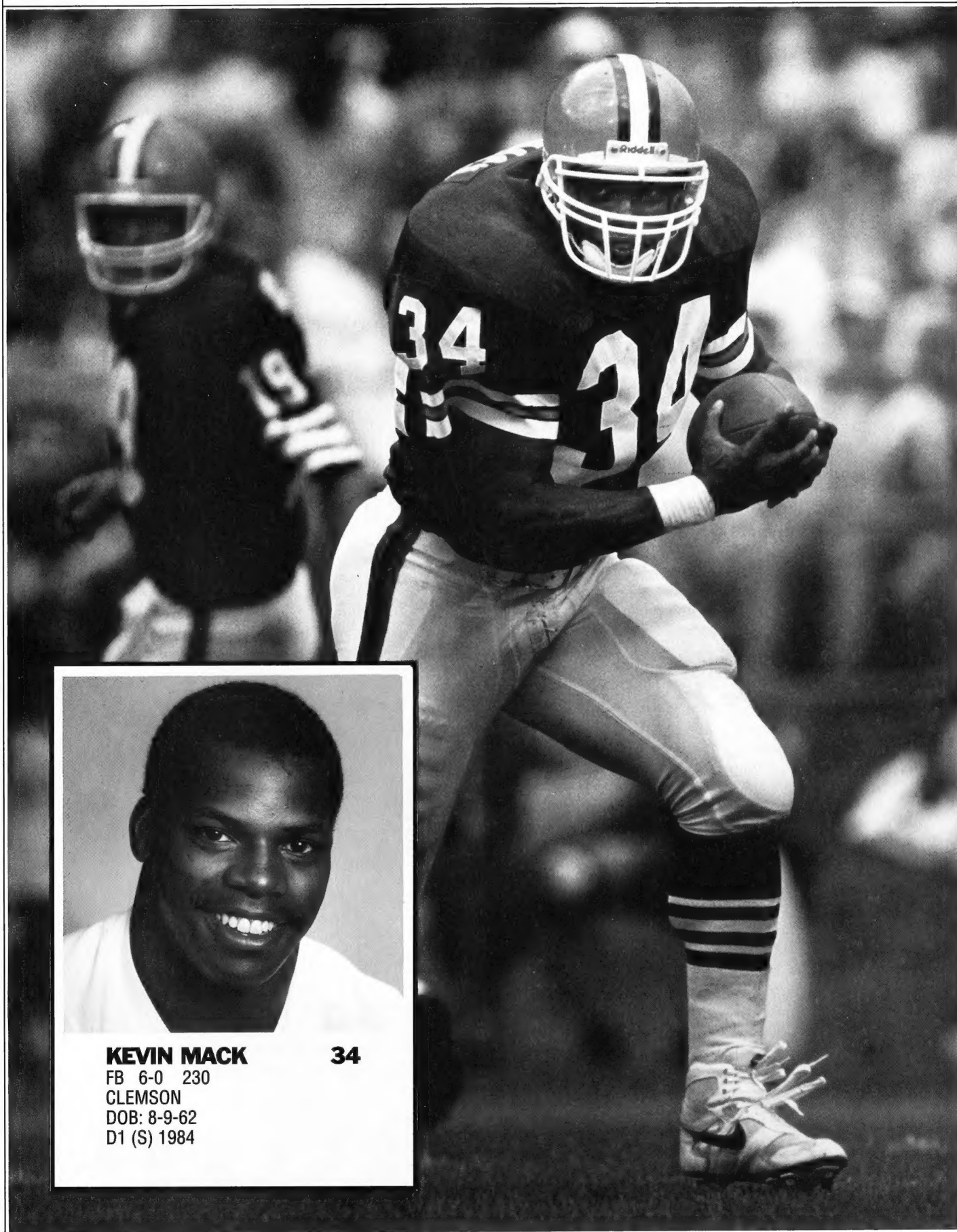
## Brian Brennan 86— Wide Receiver



**5'-10", 185 lbs., 8th Year**  
**Boston College**  
**Brother Rice (Bloomfield, Mich.) H.S.**  
**Born: February 15, 1962**  
**Bloomfield, Mich.**  
**Draft 4b, 1984**

**PRO:** Veteran, clutch receiver who moved into fifth place on the Browns' all-time reception list last season. Going into 1991, Brian's 284 career catches stands only behind Ozzie Newsome (662), Gary Collins (331), Greg Pruitt (323) and Reggie Rucker (310).

**COLLEGE, PERSONAL:** Finished career at Boston College as the all-time leader in all pass catching categories...Three-year totals included: 115 receptions for 1,280 yards (19.0) and 14 TDs...A retail broker for Dean Witter (investment firm) in offseason...Lives in Avon Lake (O.) with his wife Bethany, daughter Courtney (8/17/86) and son Brian (6/1/89)...Full name: Brian Michael Brennan.



**KEVIN MACK**

**34**

FB 6-0 230

CLEMSON

DOB: 8-9-62

D1 (S) 1984

*Photo by Gregory Drezdson*

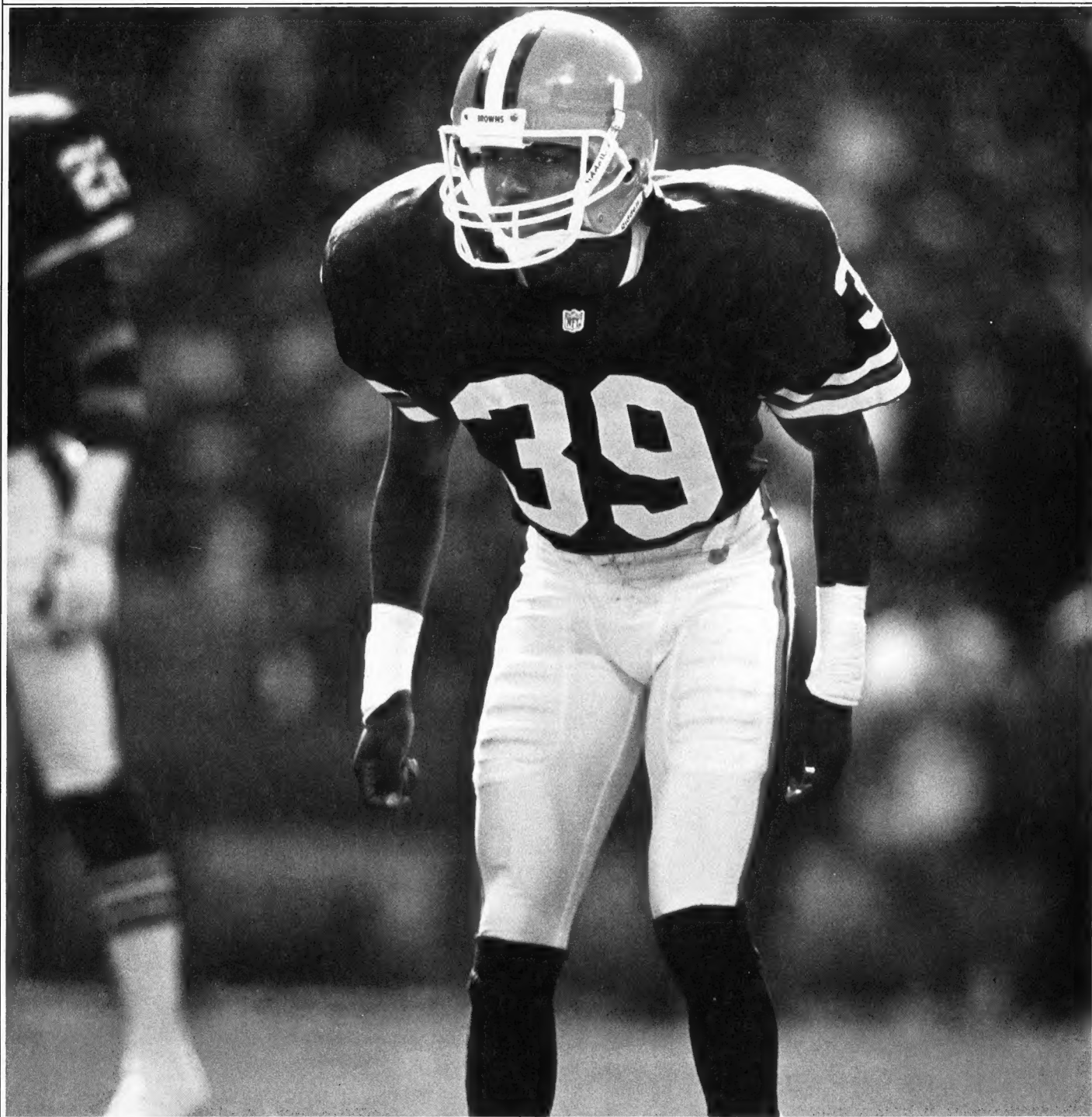
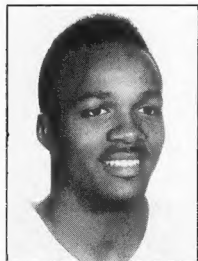


Photo by Gregory Drezdorn

## Randy Hilliard 39— Cornerback



**5'-11", 160 lbs., 2nd Year**  
**Northwestern State**  
**East Jefferson (Metairie, La.) H.S.**  
**Born: June 2, 1967**  
**Metairie, La.**  
**Draft 6, 1990**

**PRO:** Has started at right cornerback this season...Speedster in secondary who spent most of rookie year playing special teams...Browns selected Hilliard with their sixth pick in the 1990 draft, their first-ever choice from Northwestern State.

**COLLEGE, PERSONAL:** One-on-one coverage corner with 4.3 speed who returned three of his 10 career interceptions for TDs...Earned second team All-America honors and Super Sleeper Team honors from the *Poor Man's Guide to the NFL Draft* as a senior...Also first team All-Southland Conference pick...Recorded 56 tackles, three interceptions for 73 yards (one TD) and eight passes defended...Married to Lynette (one child)...Journalism major...Born June 2, 1967 in Metairie, La., a suburb of New Orleans.





Photo by Gregory Drezdson

■ Each home game, at the invitation of Head Coach Bill Belichick, former Browns' wide receiver Reggie Rucker will host two former Browns' players as Bill's guests. At the Oct. 27 contest vs. the Pittsburgh Steelers, Rucker (center), former WR-Dante Lavelli (left) and G-LB-Bill Willis visited Cleveland Stadium.



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# The Clayman, the Clayarama, the Clayster

By Frank Derry

**H**e has now played in more games than any linebacker in Browns's history. He's been to the Pro Bowl four times. And he's been an All-League selection on three occasions.

But what is probably most impressive about Clay Matthews is not his long list of past accomplishments. Rather, it's the fact that after dishing out and receiving punishing blows for nearly 200 NFL regular-season games (barring injury he'll hit the 200 mark in Week 16), Clay Matthews remains one of the most solid and dependable outside linebackers in the league.

"Most people who understand football know I'm still going to line up and win most of the plays I'm in on," said Matthews matter-of-factly. "There's always a couple of plays a game you'd love to have back and do over. But I'll win most of the plays."

There are three big reasons why Matthews remains a very productive outside linebacker.

- No. 1, he keeps himself in outstanding physical condition.
- No. 2, he's an excellent student of the game.
- No. 3, he always gives 100 percent on every play.

"I don't want to sound like I'm blowing my own horn, but I've always tried to have good techniques; I've always tried to play with a lot of effort. I think my success has been a result of a mixture of all three."

Matthews gives a great deal of the credit for his success to the three men who were starting at linebacker when he first arrived in 1978 as a first-round draft choice out of the University of Southern California.

There was outside linebacker Gerald Irons, who taught Matthews the need to be 100 percent physically prepared. "Gerald Irons was a very skilled athlete who not only was very talented, but he also was a superbly conditioned athlete," Matthews recalled.

On the other side was Charlie Hall. "Charlie was really a marginal athlete as far as his weight, speed and

strength. But he had excellent techniques, he was very smart and, therefore, was a very productive player."

The third member of the starting trio was middle linebacker Dick Ambrose. "Dick Ambrose was my roommate and he was really one of my favorite players because, here again, was a guy who, if you looked

molded them into his own single game plan.

The results have been impressive, to say the least.

He landed Pro Bowl spots in 1986, 1988, 1989 and 1990, and was an All-League selection in 1984, 1988 and 1989.

Heading into the 1991 season he had 1,156 career tackles, 55-1/2 quarterback sacks, 16 forced-fumbles, 14 fumble recoveries, 11 interceptions and four blocked field goals.

The key for Matthews is the fact he still very much enjoys the game, although there are times he admits to feeling his age (35).

"Some days I come home and swear I will not be able to finish the season," Matthews said. "But then the next day, I feel like I could go another two years."

At one point a few years back, Matthews thought he might enjoy finishing up his career with a Southern California team (he makes his off-season home in Los Angeles), but now he thinks it would be an honor to play his entire career with one team.

"I really enjoy playing here," said Matthews, who along with his wife Leslie, has five children—Jennifer (10), Kyle (9), Brian Clay (6), William Clay III (5) and Casey Christopher (2).

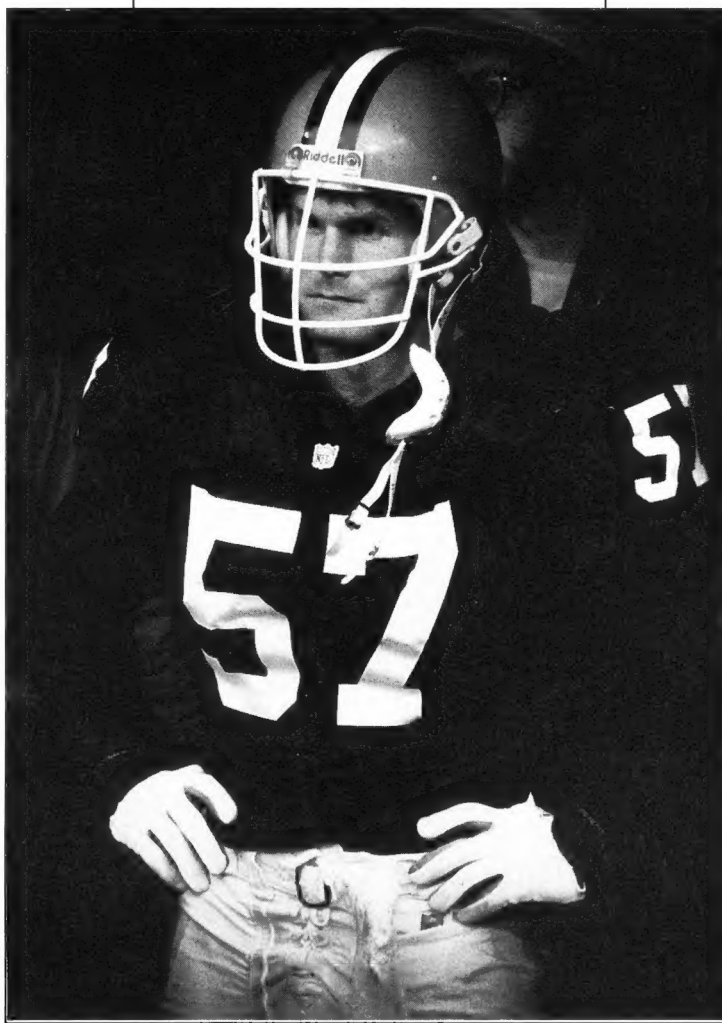
Matthews currently is tied with Doug Dieken for most consecutive seasons with the Browns (14). Only Lou Groza (17) and Gene Hickerson (15) have played more years, although both missed a season midway through their respective careers.

Groza leads the team with 216 games played, while Dieken (203) and Hickerson (202) rank second and third, respectively. Another full year would move Matthews into a tie for the top spot.

And just how much longer does he plan to play?

"At least another 10 years, wouldn't you think?" Matthews said with an impish smile.

Realistically speaking, Clay Matthews should be good for another year or two. And if that be the case, he'll gently kick Lou 'The Toe' right off the No. 1 rung. ■



■ Clay pauses in the dugout before gameday introductions.

strictly at his physical numbers, the computer would have spit him out as a reject.

"But he was very smart and he worked real hard at the game. Basically, above all, he played with a lot of tenacity. He could be blocked, but he refused to be blocked by the sheer presence of his will."

Matthews took the best of all three approaches and

**W**ELCOME TO CLEVELAND STADIUM... The Cleveland Browns extend a warm welcome to all fans attending today's game vs. the Philadelphia Eagles at Cleveland Stadium... 70,000 growl towels compliments of Coors Light will be given out to fans.

**THE SERIES...** The last time the Browns and Eagles saw each other was in London, England, on August 6, 1989 in a preseason contest after a week of practicing together. The Eagles won, 17-13, but the Browns hold a commanding lead in a regular season play with a record of 30-11-1. The last time the two teams met in a game that counted was October 16, 1988 at Cleveland Stadium in front of 78,787 fans. With Bernie Kosar, Gary Danielson and Mike Pagel out with injuries, Don Strock was called upon to quarterback the Browns to a 19-3 victory. A dominant defense sacked QB-Randall Cunningham nine times and limited the Eagles to just 119 net yards, the seventh stingiest in team history. CB-Frank Minnifield had two inter-



■ Bill Belichick

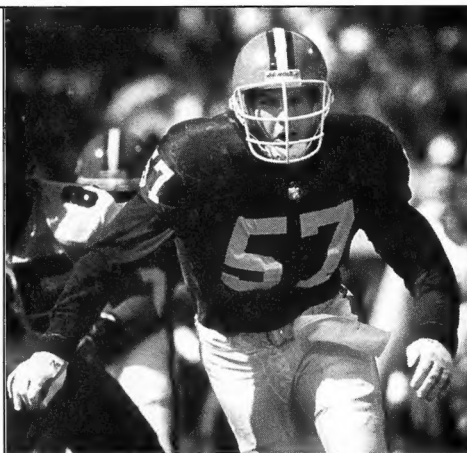
ceptions, and had a third nullified due to a pass interference call. Strock, meanwhile, threw for two TD's in completing 11 of 18 passes for 189 yards. It was Strock's first start since 1983. FB-Kevin Mack rushed for 100 yards on 16 carries, including a career-long 65-yard jaunt on the second play from scrimmage. With the score tied 3-3 at halftime, Strock connected on a 15-yard TD aerial with Webster Slaughter in the third quarter, followed by an 18-yard TD strike to Reggie Langhorne in the final stanza. Matt Bahr added his second field goal (a 37-yarder) in the fourth quarter to help the cause. The Browns are 17-3-1 against the Eagles at home and 13-8 on the road. Longest win streak in the series is seven, registered by the Browns (1963-1966). The next longest win streak is five games, recorded by the Browns three times (1950-52, 1958-60 and 1968-79). Last Eagles' win came on September 19, 1982, a 24-21 decision in Cleveland. The only tie in the series came on November 4, 1962 in Cleveland when

the two teams fought to a 14-14 draw. Total points in the series: Cleveland 1,064 (25.3 avg.), Philadelphia 746 (17.8 avg.).

**BILL SAYS...** "I said it during training camp and I know it even better now. We have a bunch of players who compete hard every play and keep going after people. I cannot find fault with the effort of the players. Look at our games. They hang in there until the end, always trying to make something happen. Seven of our nine games have been decided on final drives or close to it and you see our players doing everything they can to win... It's disappointing to lose a game like we did to Cincinnati. We had our opportunities in the end and didn't make the plays. I wasn't surprised it was close. The Bengals have a lot of quality players. We struggled at home against them in September and made the last-minute field goal to beat them. This time, we didn't get it done, but I respect the effort our players made throughout the game."

**RADIO WAVES...** The game can be heard on WHK-AM (1420) and WMMS-FM (100.7), flagship stations for the largest radio network (50 stations) in Browns' history. Pre-game festivities, hosted by Jim Mueller (in his 17th year on the Browns' radio team), and Dan Coughlin, begin at 9 a.m. on WHK. WMMS comes on with its "Tailgate Party" live from Champions at 11:00 a.m. THE BILL BELICHICK SHOW, hosted by Nev Chandler, a seven-year veteran of Browns' broadcasting, will follow. Chandler handles the play-by-play, while Doug Dieken, also in his seventh year on Browns' radio, does the color commentary. Mueller hosts a pre-game and halftime show and joins Dieken as co-host of the post-game show from the locker-room. The "Fifth Quarter," a 2 1/2 hour post-game show from Champions, features former Brown Al "Bubba" Baker, Casey Coleman and Dan Coughlin as co-hosts. WMMS will carry a post-game "Tailgate Party" from Champions.

**NO FEET OF CLAY...** Clay Matthews was awarded the Miller Lite Player of the Game for his efforts against the Pittsburgh Steelers at the Oct. 27

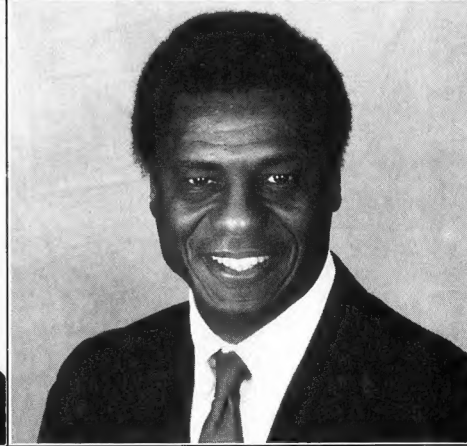


■ Clay Matthews

contest at Cleveland Stadium. Clay, who has tied former tackle Doug Dieken for the record for most consecutive seasons played in a Browns' uniform with 14, continues to perform with enthusiasm, consistency and perspective. Matthews picked off a game-saving interception at the end of the contest. See page 59 for details on the Miller Lite Award.

**BROWNS' INSIDER...** can be seen every Wednesday evening (7:30 p.m.) and again Sunday mornings (10:30 a.m.) on WOIO-TV (FOX-19). Hosted by Jim Mueller, BROWNS' INSIDER is an Emmy award winning program in its third year. Mueller also hosts THE BILL BELICHICK SHOW that's shown Saturday evenings (7:00 p.m.) and again Sunday mornings (10 a.m.) on WOIO-TV (FOX-19).

**OPERATION CAN-DO...** The Cleveland Browns' Wives Association will be at all Stadium Gates prior to the start of today's contest to collect canned and other non-perishable items for the Cleveland Food Basket to distribute to Hunger Relief Centers throughout Northeast Ohio. The drive will last until Dec. 15. See page 48 for more information. ■



■ Sunday's game with the Eagles will be televised by CBS-TV (Channel 8 locally). Tim Ryan (left) will handle the play-by-play with Irv Cross offering the color analysis.